

III. RESEARCH DESIGN

A. Research Objective

The objective of this study is to identify the existing and potential historic resources within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) of the Route 9/Road 319 Intersection Improvement Project. In addition, the study will provide Preliminary Eligibility Recommendations on each resource. The resources will be placed into the proper time period and historic context as outlined in the *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan*.

B. Architectural Survey Field Methodology

The architectural survey for the Route 9/Road 319 Intersection Improvements Project included a background literature review, a review of historic atlas maps, informant interviews, and a field survey.

The background literature review involved a non-comprehensive survey of primary and secondary sources. State, county, and local histories provided an overview of the historic context of the project area and historical maps and atlases provided additional information on development patterns.

Reference sources consulted include the Sussex County Office Recorder of Deeds, the Georgetown Historical Society, the Lewes Historical Society, and the Delaware State Archives.

The field survey for this project involved both pedestrian and windshield techniques. All above-ground architecture within the project area was examined, resulting in the identification of historic resources (buildings or structures 50 years in age or older). An examination of the historic resources was conducted, making note of their approximate age, condition, function, construction materials, and architectural details. Thirty-five millimeter photographs were taken of streetscapes, facades, lateral views, and specific details.

The National and State Historic Registers were consulted and there were no resources listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places situated within the project's APE.

One (1) property within the project's APE was previously identified in other studies; however, it did not receive formal evaluation from the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office. A Cultural Resource Survey update form will be completed for this resource.

The collected materials and research outlined above resulted in a body of information sufficient to reconstruct the general history of the region, and to place the resources in their appropriate time period and historic context according to the *Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan*. Each identified historic resource, fifty years

of age or older within the APE, was evaluated for its ability to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. However, only preliminary eligibility recommendations are discussed in this report. Delaware Cultural Resource Survey forms were completed or updated for each historic resource identified within the APE. Delaware Cultural Resource Survey numbers were assigned to each resource not previously assigned a number.